

Dairy.

Moderate Demand for Butter.
The supply of fresh butter is only moderate, but the stock of storage goods is very large and absorb a part of the demand whenever the market advances. Hence the call for fresh dairy and creamery is only fairly active and not brisk enough to advance the price beyond a fraction of a cent on the upper grades.

The increasing reliance on cold storage tends to keep prices more nearly on an even basis than formerly. Extremely high or very low quotations now rarely occur. The supply of choice Northern dairy has been lighter this week, the cold weather having lessened the output or shipments. Pasture feed will be poor from now on and amounts to little. Box butter is in fair demand. Print goods are rather scarce and bring a full cent more than tub butter.

Chapin & Adams: "Usually at this season of the year butter advances in prices, but the movement in this direction is at present very slight. The stock in storage is much larger than at this time last year, and any tendency of the market to advance brings out some of the storage stock and even down the quotations. Hence the outlook for high prices is not encouraging. The effect of the colder weather already appears in the slightly poorer quality of recent receipts of creamery butter. Usually the cold weather causes a lot of mottled butter, but not much trouble of this kind has yet been noticed."

The cheese market is quiet, with a small fractional decline noted in some lines. With the firm condition of butter markets cheese should maintain present quotations or advance. Most of the present offerings in Boston are Vermont and New York made. Not much Ohio and Wisconsin cheese is in sight.

Meeting of Milk Producers.

The milk situation was considered in all its relations at the milk producers' meeting in Boston, Thursday, Oct. 22. Discussion, however, hinged mainly on the questions of arbitration and the disposal of the surplus milk.

Finally, in case the contractors still refused to arbitrate, the directors of the union were instructed to insist on a flat price of 37½ cents per $\frac{1}{4}$ quart can in Boston, the amount to be shipped at full price, not to be limited by last winter's production. In case the contractors refuse, the matter of beginning a strike and holding back the milk is to be referred at once to the local unions.

The outlook for arbitration is not considered promising. The contractors, through their spokesman, George O. Whiting, who was heard from by telephone, re-affirmed their decision not to submit the questions in dispute to the State board of arbitration.

The refusal, however, was not a downright "no," so the meeting by its instructions left a loophole by which the contractors may still agree to arbitrate if they choose. But in any event, declared the contractors, they would submit to arbitration on nothing but the price question, while the producers wish to overhaul the whole list of questions connected with the milk supply, especially the surplus price and the "zone system," by means of which the contractors deduct a charge for freight greatly in excess of its actual cost to them. There is some possibility that the contractors would agree to arbitrate before a committee of three, of which they should nominate one member and the producers another; these two members to appoint a third. But the producers are rather suspicious of this idea, and insist on the State board as the only body that would be regarded with general confidence. It is decidedly the impression of those directors of the union who have talked with the contractors that the latter have no intention of agreeing to arbitration, and the prospect of such a settlement appears slight.

The chance of a peaceable outcome thus rests mainly on a possibility of satisfactory agreement regarding the so-called "surplus." The temporary arrangement now in force calls for 39½ cents per can, or 37½ cents without the two cents allowed for carrying the general surplus. This price is all that the producers now ask.

The most serious difficulty hinges on the clause "amount limited to last winter's production and conditions." The excess, if any, sent by cash producers is being paid for at so-called "butter price," about 17 cents per can. Last winter the supply was very short, and many producers are making double the amount of milk they made the corresponding month last year. In such cases the "butter price" of the surplus would cut down their average for the whole amount to an unreasonable extent. This feature of the arrangement likewise offers great scope for the perverted ingenuity of the contractors. While some of them carry it out quite fairly, others make it an excuse for special forms of contract which include in substance some of the worst features of the old-time surplus clauses, and leave producers almost at the mercy of the dealers.

Sentiment at the meeting was strongly against anything like a return of the "surplus" clause. A flat price, it was said by many, must be insisted on above everything. Secretary Hunter warned the producers that this surplus arrangement was exactly what the contractors were most anxious to see restored in its former power.

The subject of strengthening the resources of the union was given considerable attention. Several members spoke their views regarding incorporation. One speaker, however, departed from the line followed by the others, and said that he believed that instead of incorporating the association it would be best to form a stock company. His plan was to have every member subscribe for at least a certain amount of the stock, and if any wanted to take more they would be at liberty to do so. This stock should not be assessable for more than its face value. The speaker said that he had devoted a summer to the study of the workings of the English system of co-operative business and that he had found it very satisfactory. He thought the producers should be able to say to the contractors, "We are in a position to market our own product" and then they would receive better treatment. Evidently the idea is gaining ground of a closer form of organization of producers. It was also pointed out that better preparation should be made for critical times such as the present. The union should arrange so that cans, shipping facilities and selling arrangements can be provided in case of a milk war. Organizers should be sent to gather other producers into the union and to hurry out along the railroad lines in case of a strike and keep back the milk. For the present the local unions were urged to raise at least \$1 per member, in addition to membership dues.

Since the meeting there have been various conferences between officers of the union

and the dealers. The contractors were unwilling either to pay the straight price demanded or to submit the matter in dispute to the State board. Even to a board made up according to their own ideas they would submit no question other than that of the price. The matter has been referred to the local producers' union. At time of writing, the result had not been announced.

Agricultural.

Dried Blood as a Hog Food.

The latest reported experiment in use of meat food for swine is from the Nebraska station. Two lots of Berkshire-Tamworth cross-bred pigs were used in the test. One lot was fed ground wheat forty per cent., wheat middlings forty per cent., and ground maize twenty per cent. The other lot was fed a ration consisting of ground wheat forty per cent., wheat middlings thirty-five per cent., ground maize twenty per cent., and dried blood five per cent. The experiment was divided into two periods of six and eight weeks each.

During the first period the lot having no dried blood made an average gain of 1.01 pounds per day, and consumed 3.84 pounds of grain for each pound of gain, against 0.93 pound daily average and 4.10 pounds of grain for each pound of gain in the lot having the dried blood.

During the second period, the lot having no dried blood made an average daily gain of 1.63 pounds, and consumed 4.68 pounds of grain for each pound of gain, against 1.55 pounds daily average gain, and 4.91 pounds of grain for each pound of gain in the other lot. In this test it will be seen that five per cent. dried blood added to the ration did not increase the gains from food consumed. This is to be attributed to the fact that all the lots had a mixed diet, viz.: lucerne pasture with forty per cent. wheat, thirty-five per cent. middlings and twenty per cent. maize, in addition to the five per cent. dried blood, which provided all the food nutrients required, with sufficient protein.

So far as one experiment with two lots of pigs can prove any question, it indicates that the mixed ration without the dried blood contains all the variety and all the protein or flesh-forming elements needed by pigs.

In experiments conducted elsewhere, where only dried blood was added to a maize ration, a marked increase in the economy of the gains resulted. These experiments would indicate that variety and a properly balanced ration are the chief factors in economical gains with growing pigs, and that dried blood is economical only when it is the cheapest method of supplying the protein to make a proper ration.

C. G. F.

The Evils of Vivisection.

The Animals' Defender has an article on "Human Vivisection," which makes some astonishing revelations regarding an evil that may grow unless it is checked by some outspoken denunciation from prominent medical journals. It says that on Feb. 21, 1900, a hearing was given by a committee of the United States Senate to the advocates and opponents of a bill for the regulation of vivisection in the District of Columbia, and that Dr. Osler, the president of a medical college, in opposition to the measure, said, in referring to a pamphlet published by the American Humane Association, he desired to emphasize the fact that the sentiment of the medical profession strongly condemned the making of experiments upon patients like those recorded in the pamphlet, which were as repulsive to reputable physicians as the dead disgrams of an offending clergyman is repulsive to the cloth at large.

The Animals' Defender is of the opinion that this statement is not strictly correct, but whether it is right or wrong, it must be acknowledged that vivisection for scientific purposes has already gone too far, and that there are some doctors in apparently good standing who take no account of human suffering if they can make themselves famous by the discovery of new cures—think, no doubt, that the greatest good to the greatest number is desirable, though the individual withers during the work of research. The Animals' Defender calls special attention to a paper read before the New York Academy of Medicine on Dec. 1, 1887, by a doctor who had conceived the idea that the sentiment of the medical profession strongly condemned the making of experiments upon patients like those recorded in the pamphlet, which were as repulsive to reputable physicians as the dead disgrams of an offending clergyman is repulsive to the cloth at large.

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by a doctor who had conceived the idea that the foot and mouth epidemic disorder, fatal to certain animals, had a particular relation to scarlet fever; and that if human beings were inoculated with the virus it might render them immune to scarlet fever. This vivisectionist, in the paper referred to, described some of his own experiments, and the first person he operated upon was a little boy. He inoculated the lad with the virus of the foot and mouth disease, and then exposed him to the infection of scarlet fever, by placing over his mouth a pillow that had been used by a patient suffering from that disease. The theory of this doctor, by the way, has been long discredited, but even if it were correct, he had no excuse that we can see for his disgusting attempt to prove it true. This is only one recorded instance of the abuse of human vivisection, but it shows something of the spirit of the man who would peep and botanize upon his mother's grave.

A Few Bird Notes.

The great scarcity of song birds during the past summer has occasioned considerable comment, for, though these welcome visitors were plenty enough in the spring, they disappeared numerously as the warmer weather approached, and there are fewer southward travelers among them than ever before at this season. The Springfield Republican is of the opinion that there has been this year extensive slaughter of song birds, and it holds the Italians responsible in a great measure for this wholesale killing, since they regard the birds as only desirable for cooking. It is said that Italy is almost a songless country, as far as the birds are concerned, because its inhabitants take this view and have no admiration for the music of nature, though they have sufficient appreciation of the music of art. The law is supposed to insure the safety of the birds as only desirable for cooking. 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CHARACTER ON HORSEBACK

Many a peculiar sight one sees on horseback. Did it ever occur to you that a horse raced in this condition becomes very much overheated. The saddle with its weight rubs the back. Under the bridle and straps are little sore and chafed spots. Soothe and refresh by the use of Gossamer. Article of great value in a stable.

C. N. CRITTENDEN CO.
15 Fulton St., New York.

Dairying.

A Remarkable Egg Record.

During the four years in which the best hens have been selected and bred at the Maine Experiment Station with the aid of trap nests, thirty-five hens have been found that have yielded from two hundred to 251 eggs each in a year.

Hen No. 617, who deserves a name as well as a number, laid 251 eggs in her first year. Professor Gowell says she is the best hen bred at the station, and she has probably made the best record of any hen tested by anything like an official record. "The eggs were of good size and shape, but hardly of sufficiently high color. She would be regarded as of the egg type by those who profess to tell the egg-yielding capacity of hens by their forms and marking." She is less substantial in build than some of the other prolific layers of this flock, and, judging from the picture, she shows less evidence of vigor and constitutional power.

Most probably the chicks of such a bird would inherit somewhat enfeebled constitutions as a result of the terrific strain to which the hen had been subjected. Reckoned at nine eggs to the pound, she laid nearly twenty-seven pounds of eggs during the year. Such a performance can hardly fail to show its effect on the vital powers. No wonder the death rate of this extraordinary flock was unusually high.

Eggs Still Higher.

The firm tone of the egg market continues. Nearby henry stock and selected Western show an advancing tendency. Retail prices of best marks are well up in the forties a month before Thanksgiving season. Top wholesale quotation for large lots is 36 cents, with a few special brands a shade higher. There is really very little fancy stock arriving from the West, and consumers are obliged to use storage eggs or pay the high prices for nearby extras. News from Western markets and collecting points indicate a strong position for some time to come. Something like an egg famine might occur but for the big stocks in storage. It is estimated that at least two hundred thousand cases are still in storage at and near New York alone.

At New York prices show an advance of about one cent on fresh stock and one-half cent on the higher grades of refrigerators, at which improvement the market is closing firm. Strictly fancy fresh are scarce and wanted beyond the supply. Good medium qualities are selling fairly and average better prices than heretofore obtained. Densely inferior stock continues quiet, although the quantity unsold seems to be rather less than heretofore. Refrigerators must be exceptionally fine to reach top quotation, but it is not easy to find really desirable qualities at a lower price.

Cold Storage and Egg Prices.

Cold storage acts as a balance wheel in regulating prices. During the spring and early summer, when production is heaviest, dealers lay in their supply. Their demands relieve the producer of a large part of his surplus at a time when he has most trouble in disposing of it, and prices are well sustained. In the winter, when the supply of fresh eggs and poultry is cut off, the hoards of the cold-storage houses are sent into the market, and the price is moderated by the fuller supply, and thus the consumer is benefited. Fluctuations are not so pronounced as formerly.

In 1900 the amount of space in cold-storage rooms of packing-houses, creameries and breweries was at least 150,000,000 cubic feet and in other cold stores was one hundred million cubic feet more, making an approximate total of 250,000,000 cubic feet. The space for eggs and poultry was 500 per cent. greater than 1890. In minimizing waste the method has the perfection of exact science.

Only perfect eggs are stored, those cracked in transit and the small and dry-shelled ones being canned and frozen. Such eggs are sold to large baking establishments at prices below those of fresh eggs, thus taking the bakers out, to a large extent, from the winter demand, and having a moderating effect upon prices.

Cold Storage and the Poultry Trade.

A powerful factor in developing the poultry industry is cold storage. Applied in transportation it has worked a great change in business methods. The first attempts at preservation of perishable products were made by the agency of ice and snow. Cellars, caves and ice chambers were utilized to prevent decay. Research was also had to water-glass, a silicate of soda, vaseline, lime-water and numerous other chemicals with varying degrees of success. While several of these means of preservation have been successful in retarding decay, they are not practicable for preserving eggs in large quantities. To the farmers they are of more or less value, enabling him to hold his eggs for better prices, but for commercial purposes they do not answer. Ice and snow were long considered the best means of preservation in large quantities, but a constant difficulty in their use was the inability to maintain a fixed temperature and to control the humidity. Experiments, costly and tedious, led to the general adoption by all large dealers of mechanical refrigeration. The product to be preserved is thus cooled to a definite temperature, which is maintained with as little variation as possible.

In the early application of cold storage, eggs were stored only as a last resort. There was no selection with cold storage in view, and inferior goods were too often stored, bringing the method under suspicion. Losses followed, and it was seen that the primary consideration in successful cold storage was a judicious selection of products. With this lesson thoroughly learned, cold storage began to play an important part in the poultry and egg industry.

Horticultural.

Weaker Apple Markets.

Increasing receipts, partly of poor quality, have tended to weaken prices slightly this week. This effect, noticeable last week, has become quite plain to see this week. The list of quotations runs much the same, but the range does not reach so high. Baldwins, formerly selling at \$2.50, now bring only \$2.25, and many pretty good lots are sold at \$2.

Medium grades and windfalls are decidedly in over supply. Large shipments of these from Maine arrived this week and are not regarded with favor by dealers, being hard to sell at decent prices and injuring the demand for better grades. When these seconds have been disposed of the situation will be improved in that respect, but, on the other hand, heavy shipments of all grades may be expected for some time to come, and a decline in prices is quite possible, almost probable, in fact.

Said Mr. York of York & Whitney: "All depends on the foreign market. Nothing else keeps up the present prices. It seems hardly possible that the foreign market can continue to take all shipments at high prices. A decline over there will react on local markets. From now to the middle of November will be the usual time of heavy shipments by growers. The Canadians have a large crop, and they will try to move it while navigation remains open or by the middle of the month. A great deal of stock has been bought up and stored by dealers who paid high prices, and if values should decline there will be losses the same as last year."

New York dealers say fully three-fourths of the State crop has been bought up and mostly put in storage. If so, this stock must be sold at \$2.50 or more to bring the holders out successfully. A New York dealer, who has been trying to buy fruit in the Southwest, in the Ozarks section of Missouri and Arkansas, says the apples there include some fine highly colored Ben Davis, but the crop is very light.

So far the indications are that the crop is about as expected and forecasted early in the season, namely, a large crop, not so large, however, as that of last year (at least forty or fifteen per cent. less) and located in sections other than those which bore the bulk of last year's crop.

The West, except a section around the Great Lakes, is very short. Pennsylvania, Ohio and western New York have large crops. The New England crop is mostly a short one, but there are a good many apples in Maine and some other parts of that section. Canada had a big surplus for shipment, and is likely to send plenty more before the season over. Most of the bearing sections have been favored with good weather for gathering the crop.

Said a prominent Boston apple exporter: "I fear prices are too high in relation to the large stock of apples in sight, and I cannot see how prices can be maintained in foreign markets. Shipments abroad have been very much greater than at the same time last year."

G. A. Cochrane reports situation still favorable at Liverpool and London, choice stock bringing good prices. His shipments in boxes resulted favorably.

In speaking of the apple crop of 1903, W. B. Snow, statistician of the International Apple Shippers' Association, said:

"The situation in Ontario is very similar to that in New York, a smaller aggregate crop, but with more fruit for barreling. The quality of the crop in this province has rarely been better, and the export trade will be larger than for some years. Last year the other great Canadian district, Nova Scotia, experienced what was practically a failure, and will this year have, yield and quality both considered, fully three times as much fruit for the export trade."

"The opinion has prevailed generally this year that the apple crop is a practical failure founded upon the late frosts and cold, rainy weather last spring. The actual fact is that while there is a shortage in the districts of commercial orcharding as compared with last year the total production, ignoring quality and commercial availability, is very little smaller than a year ago.

The distribution of the crop, however, is radically different, conditions approaching a failure marking the situation in the leading commercial districts of the West except in Michigan, while the extreme southern and the extreme northern parts of the apple territory have a fair crop. Here the crop, such as it is, is not commercially available, representing home and local use, so that from the market standpoint the Western crop is much shorter than a year larger; La Salle, twenty-five per cent. larger.

Rhode Island promises a twenty per cent. larger crop than last year; Connecticut and Vermont each fifty per cent. smaller.

The returns from Michigan and Wisconsin are rather incomplete. The acreage in these States is very scattering, and as a rule small, and the indifference of the growers makes it very difficult to get complete returns. However, the reports as given by the counties mentioned will apply to the State as a whole.

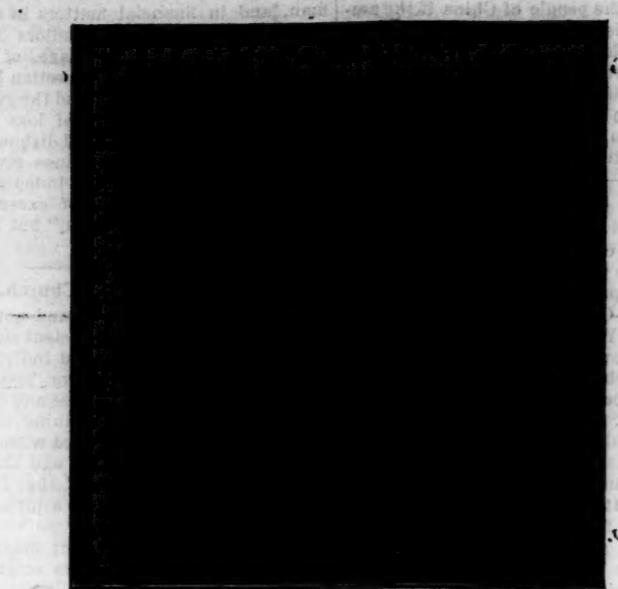
In the old established orchard districts of the East the situation is again different. The total crop in each State north and east of Pennsylvania is smaller than last year, but the general quality of the crop is so much better than last season that the amount of fruit available for barreling as No. 1 stock is undoubtedly larger than last year.

"In the middle Atlantic States, Pennsylvania to Virginia, and in the States immediately south of the Ohio river, the season was wholly favorable; orchards bore heavily, and the crop is much larger than last year. Unfortunately, with the exception of limited districts in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, there are few commercial orchards in this section."

Foreign Apple Markets.

Cable advises to George A. Cochrane from all foreign markets, especially those of Great Britain, give apple markets as very active, and notwithstanding the immense arrivals prices are well sustained, more especially on fine fruit of the red varieties. Baldwins, Northern Spy, Spitz, Blue Pearmain, Harveys, Seeks and Hubbardstones were bringing \$2.75 to \$3.75 per barrel. Kings are in great demand, and are selling all the way from \$3.50 to \$4.50 per barrel. Greenings and other cooking apples are bringing \$2.50 to \$3.50 per barrel. Apples packed in the half-barrel case that Mr. Cochrane advocates, he reports are bringing one-third more proportionately than barrels for fine, selected and well-packed fruit.

Mail advises speak most favorably of the outlook for American apples. There appears to be no end to the demand, and fruit landing from Boston steamers this season is in exceptionally fine condition. Boston unquestionably is the most inviting port for apple shipments. The new large steamers of the last few years have been built expressly to take care of this fruit business. The secret of English markets standing up under these heavy shipments is the large attendance of continental buyers in the London and Liverpool markets. The direct steamers from America to continental ports are not so well adapted for apple shipments and continental buyers prefer to have their shipments come via English steamers, but most of them are content to supply their wants in the English markets.



A CHAMPION EGG-LAYING PLYMOUTH ROCK.

See descriptive article.

Pears and Other Fruit.

Pears are getting past the most active part of the season, but the supply is still large and prices no more than steady. Pears seem to be somewhat less popular than apples when choice Sheldons bring little more than Baldwins. Dealers complain that pears have sold rather slowly this season.

The crop, however, was relatively larger in this section than was the crop of apples. The native supply of pears was so ample that the usual invasion of Southern Keifers and other cheap kinds has failed to arrive. Native Keifers, what few there are, sell lower than the choice kinds, 50 cents to \$1 per bushel being the range. The variety sells fairly well when other pears are scarce, but is at a discount in a season like the present.

Quince continue high. Some fancy large ones from California in two-third bushel boxes bring \$2 to \$2.25, natives \$2 to \$3 per bushel and \$1.25 for calls. Grapes are in good demand and higher. Cranberries dull and plenty, but price holds about steady.

At New York apples are in heavy supply and market weak, especially for the lower qualities. Pears hold steady for choice, but poor stock is dull and irregular. Quince continue in light supply and firm. Grapes are in quite liberal supply and meeting a good outlet. Cranberries are in active demand and firm.

The Onion Crop.

The annual report compiled by J. B. Rice, onion-seed specialist, is at hand. Mr. Rice's somewhat scattering returns indicate a small average increase in the acreage devoted to the onion crop. As compared with the yield last year, the product for 1903 is generally larger in the West, but less in the East.

Massachusetts, Connecticut and Vermont show thirty to fifty per cent. decrease in yield. In New York two counties show a moderate gain and two a large decrease. The crop in Wayne, Madison and Onondaga counties is reckoned thirty-five per cent. less than last year, acreage the same (two thousand acres); Livingston and Genesee counties twenty per cent. larger than last year, acreage three hundred, against 275 last year; Orange County fifty per cent. less than last year, acreage the same (1600 acres).

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Current Happenings.

The Sisterhood of St. Mary's was the first religious community of the Episcopal Church to come into existence in the United States, and since it was founded in 1863 it has established the House of Mercy at Indianapolis, Indiana, Trinity Mission House in Fulton street and the Children's Hospital in Thirty-fourth street, New York city, summer homes for children of Norwalk, Ct., and Islip, N. Y., an orphanage and mission house in Chicago, connected with the Cathedral, and schools in Davenport, Iowa, Memphis, Tenn., and Kenosha, Wis. The mother house is St. Gabriel's, Peckskill, N. Y., and a new convent has been built for it through gifts and contributions. It was dedicated on Wednesday, the Rt. Rev. George Franklin Seymour, D. D., L. L. D., Bishop of Springfield, Ill., conducting the exercises, and Rev. Morgan Dix, D. D., D. C. L., delivering the sermon. One wing of the new building will be devoted to an infirmary for old and invalid sisters. For a number of years the High Church women have made Lenten retreats at St. Gabriel's.

In Ohio, which reports the largest acreage of all the States, eight counties show three to three hundred per cent. gain in output and one county reports twenty per cent. loss. Indiana, Illinois and the central West generally show a decrease, but Michigan is forty per cent. while Kosciusko is forty per cent. smaller. In Michigan all the counties promise a smaller output, running from twenty to sixty-five per cent. Wisconsin is twenty-five per cent. less than last year. Minnesota, twenty to fifty per cent. smaller. Illinois, Cook County is 150 per cent. larger; La Salle, twenty-five per cent. larger.

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Current Happenings.

The memorial tree idea was originated by William B. Smith, who has been for half a century superintendent of the National Botanic Gardens at Washington, D. C., where he has directed the planting of trees in and about the Capital by distinguished men. It was formerly the custom for the Presidents of the Republic to plant trees in the Botanic Gardens, instead of in the White House grounds, and there are several old elms and planes that were planted in the garden by senators. Mr. Smith recently recalled the fact that President Roosevelt had planted a graft of the Washington elm at Cambridge, Mass., at Warwick, L. I. Mr. Smith also said that Senators Allison and Aldrich were soon to go to him to plant two other grafts of the historic tree, so intimately connected with the Capital.

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The first Massachusetts State Conference of Charities will be held in Boston on Nov. 4, 5 and 6. President Carroll D. Wright will open the conference, and there will be addresses of welcome by Lieutenant-Governor

Guild and Mayor Collins; addresses on "Co-operation for the Public Good" will be made by Gen. Benjamin Bridges, warden of the State prison, Rev. Dr. Philip S. Moxon and Edward T. Devine, secretary of the New York charity organization society, to be followed by a reception of delegates at the Hotel Brunswick. On the following morning in Young Men's Christian Association Hall the subject treated from various standpoints will be "The Separation of Children from Parents," upon which a paper will be read by David Tilley of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Boston, to be followed by discussions by Sherman C. Kingsley, general secretary of the Boston Children's Friend Society; Charles K. Morton, general agent for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children; H. W. Bullock, agent Hampden County Children's Aid Association; Mrs. J. H. Hayes, president of the conference for day nurseries, and Miss Lillian Freeman Clark of the charity for aiding destitute mothers. In the afternoon the delegates will visit the almshouse and hospital, Long Island. In the evening in Huntington Hall addresses on the subject "Tramps" will be made by Prof. John J. McCook, Trinity College, Hartford; Charles Lee, Massachusetts Civic League, Boston. A discussion will follow. In Young Men's Christian Association Hall on Friday morning Mrs. Glen-dower Evans, trustee of Lynn and industrial schools, will speak on "The Relation of the Placing-out Work of an Institution to its Other Work," and the discussion will be opened by Mrs. William J. Rotch of the board of managers of the home for orphan and destitute children, New Bedford.

At the quarterly meeting of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture

for lectures and discussions will be held at Atwood Academy of Music, on invitation of the Worcester Northwest Agricultural and Mechanical Society, Tuesday-Thursday, Dec. 1, 2, 3. Following the opening exercises on Tuesday forenoon, which will begin at ten o'clock, will be a lecture on "The Value of Art and Skill in Industry."

On Wednesday forenoon, Dec. 2, the lecture

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN
THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE

TELEPHONE NO. 3707 MAIN.

Robin had to go into the barn somewhat earlier than he probably expected.

Will the name of Mary J. Holmes usurp Old Sleuth now that the messengers are wearing petticoats?

We doubt if anybody went to sleep during the President's sermon. 'Twas a sermon, in fact, that might very well be served up cold during a good many succeeding Sundays.

And now it seems that the British government has overcharged Mr. Atkins for tobacco that at best was hardly worth the smoking. But how happens it that Mr. Kipling was apparently sleeping?

If Russia listens she may hear aesthetic little Japan out in the backyard and diligently shooting at a target. And aesthetic little Japan is nothing if not a determined body.

In union there is undoubtedly strength, but when two unions act as the warring factions down in Lynn are doing, the average citizen begins to remember that strength is sometimes another name for weakness.

In other days evangelists used to conclude their services with the formula "We will now pray." Mr. Dowie seems to have found a new formula to which he attaches almost equal importance—"We will now attack the newspapers."

Maine still suffers from the careless sportsman; in fact, one sometimes wonders whether these autumnal huntsmen are not impelled to childish gayety by the influence of the woods and even led back to the past happiness of playing Indian.

Even despite the unipicturesque material which modern costume offers the artist, Chartran's picture of the signing of the peace protocol is doubtless well worth having. Nor is it impossible that future generations may find our costumes quaint even if not beautiful.

We learn from a contemporary that when the Cambridge school teachers received their pay the other day, "every pretty school teacher rejoiced." Does this mean that some of the teachers weren't paid, after all? or is it merely an expression of the human tendency to be covetous?

The North Pole as a sporting proposition ought easily to attract the necessary capital. The difficulty, of course, is that it couldn't be watched; but for that matter there are thousands of people who can't actually see the international yacht races, and who even have to take their pupils by reading about it after the event.

The reported discovery of new sun spots by an astronomical observer of the age of fifteen suggests the possibility of a volume to be entitled "Sharp-Eyed Sam, the Boy Astronomer" and promptly added to the dime libraries. In our youth we saw many of these volumes in the hands of others, but we do not remember any boy astronomer.

Without wishing to seem too critical, we nevertheless cannot feel quite convinced that the voting of the women of Wyoming is altogether responsible, as stated at a recent suffrage meeting, for the fact that there are now women in her insane asylums. The point was not dwelt upon, but what it would actually seem to show is that the women of Wyoming are no longer crazy to vote.

The proposed effort to form a gigantic union of the team drivers has started with a statement singularly unattractive, although we regret to read that it was received even with applause. "There is only one way," President Shee is quoted as saying, "you have got to be in a trade union or in a hospital." Received with applause, indeed! Such a statement, by every person who has at heart the best interest of the labor unions, to say nothing of the best interest of the country, should have been received with hisses.

According to President Senter of the Vermont Bar Association, Shakspere had the genius of absorbing miscellaneous information.

The record which the Good Government Association proposes to keep of the good and bad deeds of every candidate for public office is a very practical method of affording the average citizen a chance to elect his representatives with the same degree of judgment that would be shown by a successful business man in choosing his own officials. Unless we are mistaken, the system is not altogether unlike the records kept by such a corporation as the Boston Elevated and used as a basis for promotions. If it works well in one place there is no reason why it shouldn't work well in another, provided that the average citizen will take advantage of an easy method of information. The fact that it is easy leaves little excuse for ignorance.

Manufacturers combine and raise prices, which means more profit to them at the expense of the consumers. Labor unions raise wages also at the expense of consumers. Farmers, as the great consuming class, pay the bills in the shape of more costly clothing, machinery and supplies, higher taxes, increased cost of buildings and repair work. This tendency increases and can only result in one way. Farmers will be forced to combine also and advance the price of staple products. The time is not yet quite ripe for a successful movement of this kind. But good beginnings have been made in some of the products more easily controlled, and which are in the hands of especially well-trained and enterprising growers. Without combination the prices of whatever farmers sell and also of other people who combine closely and effectively.

The market reports and comment are one of the most practically valuable features of a well-conducted agricultural paper. There are times when a knowledge of conditions and tendencies prevailing in large market

centres might save a reader enough to pay subscription bills for a lifetime. A study of the market is essential not only for timely shipment and wise selling, but is also helpful to careful buyers. The statement of wholesale prices for all sorts of supplies bought by farmers serves as a protection against the abuses of local dealers, who can be brought to reason by a threat to resort to direct purchase from wholesalers.

The markets are becoming more and more a subject for serious and careful attention by farmers of a businesslike turn of mind, who find that no other study so surely and quickly gets into connection with the farm pocketbook and bank account.

Although there is said to be nothing new under the sun, Le Matin, an enterprising French Journal, recently congratulated itself on having evolved a new variety of the prize serial story. In this case the prize was tangible. The serial mentioned a hidden treasure in Paris and invited its readers to hunt and find. The people hunted here, there and everywhere. But, unfortunately for the ultimate success of the scheme, the lucky winner found the treasure with quite too much facility to please others busily searching in the same neighborhood. They concluded, indeed, with that quickness for which the French mind is famous, that here was a person in the employ of the paper, who had been told where to find the treasure; and this being decided, that such a person was worthy of what the French lightly term the law of lynch. The prize winner, however, escaped with his life, and the disappointed treasure seekers were even prevented from wrecking the office of the paper.

Our Chinese Neighbors.

The first fury of the unfortunate Chinese raid of three weeks ago has blown over, but that the better portion of our community wholly disapproves of the methods used is proven by the resolutions passed last Monday by the Congregational ministers hereabouts. The words of this resolution, presented by Rev. Henry S. Huntington of Milton, are of interest in that they "protest against the method and spirit of the action as contrary to the essential principles of American rights and justice. No such treatment of Americans or of European foreigners resident among us would for a moment be tolerated," the ministers go on to say. "Moreover, the Chinese as a whole have proved themselves as industrious and law-abiding as any class of persons in America, and we claim that they should be treated with the same respect, good-will and regard for their rights which we demand for our own countrymen in China." Without attempting to analyze at all the motives which prompted the raid, it seems to us worth while, in view of the resolutions quoted, to review somewhat the status of the Chinese in our midst. Upon the "Sunday-school side" of this question we will not, however, enter. Plenty of people there are who say that the growth of the Chinese in Christian faith is wonderful and encouraging. And plenty of others assert that the Chinaman who goes to Sunday school regularly in the morning plays his gambling game on Harrison avenue as regularly in the afternoon. The factory inspector has discovered that boys and girls fresh from a school life involving only five hours a day of indoor work are peculiarly unable to bear, without injury, the strain of the ten-hour work day now customary in our factories. Disregard for the provisions of this new law is to be punished by fines. No longer will the factory inspection department be satisfied with the dismissal of the children under the required legal age. Real evidence that the child is as old as the law requires should be demanded by the employer when the child is taken on; then if he fails to have this to show he must pay the penalty.

President Roosevelt has written to Mr. Hall, the secretary of the child labor committee which secured the adoption of the new code, heartily congratulating him upon the success of the agitation, and declaring that "we now have in New York State child labor laws which I believe will be enforced." Boston's position in the matter of child labor has been made quite clear this last week in connection with the Western Union Telegraph Company's employment of girls as messengers. A complaint was made that the company was violating the labor laws by employing girls of less than the legal age to carry its messages. But it was found upon investigation that none of the messengers were less than sixteen years of age. Nevertheless, a technical violation of the law was brought to light, for all girls less than twenty-one must present a regular school certificate that they are eligible for work, and this some of the messengers had failed to do. Yet when the manager's attention was called to the matter he acceded very readily to the requirements. All this is of decided interest—the agitation concerning child labor, the laws which are passed to regulate it and the action which grows out of the laws. America owes it to herself to stand for the protection of the child. And that employers, no less than philanthropists, are bending their efforts to guarantee to every boy and girl in the land a proper amount of childhood and education, is a most encouraging sign of the times.

opened up to the people of China if the ambitions of this reform movement, a branch of which is located on our own Harrison avenue, are realized. In all this upward struggle China asks our help and encouragement. We as a civilized people, should blush to indulge in violence where friendliness is invited.

Tramps and Recent Child Labor Legislation.

The latest charge brought against child labor by those who have studied the question is that of pauperism. Miss Jane Addams of Hull House, Chicago, writing in "Charities," a New York weekly review of general philanthropy, points out that child labor has a decidedly debilitating effect upon the mental and physical systems, and so drives men to tramp life. From examination of the tramps in Chicago it has been discovered that a genuine connection may be established between premature labor and worn-out men. "It is surprising," writes Miss Addams, "to find how many begin to tramp because they are tired to death, just as a business man goes to the woods because he is worn out with the stress of business life. This inordinate desire to get away from work seems to be connected with the fact that the men have started to work very early, before they had the physique to stand up to it, or the mental vigor with which to overcome its difficulties, or the moral stamina which makes a man stick to his work whether he likes it or not." We cannot demand any of these things from a growing boy. They are all traits of the adult. A boy is naturally restless, his determination easily breaks down and he runs away.

Miss Addams goes on to illustrate by means of a man in the municipal lodging-house of Chicago, who had begun to work in a textile mill quite below the present legal age in New England, and who had worked hard for sixteen years in a place that required no manual exercise, but made him simply a cog in an industrial wheel. "At last," said this man, "I was sick in bed for two or three days with a fever, and when I crawled out I made up my mind that I would rather go to hell than go back to that mill." This man does not steal, Miss Addams says, but for four years now he has been tramping. The mere suggestion of a factory throws him into a panic. The physician has made a diagnosis of general debility. The man, in his opinion, is not fit for steady work because prematurely spent. All this makes it very clear that the young, if too early submitted to the grind of factory life, must swell our pauper list. In New York, it is worth noting, a law just enacted provides that children who are less than sixteen years of age shall not work longer than nine hours a day. The factory inspector has discovered that boys and girls fresh from a school life involving only five hours a day of indoor work are peculiarly unable to bear, without injury, the strain of the ten-hour work day now customary in our factories. Disregard for the provisions of this new law is to be punished by fines. No longer will the factory inspection department be satisfied with the dismissal of the children under the required legal age. Real evidence that the child is as old as the law requires should be demanded by the employer when the child is taken on; then if he fails to have this to show he must pay the penalty.

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Relief for the Rich.

A proper appreciation of the burdens of the rich is rarely to be met with. We are accustomed to think of the serious problems which beset the poor, and we are taught from earliest infancy to sympathize with them. But because we have come to think in this country that wealth is a panacea for all human ills, it seldom occurs to us that the rich man, too, needs our sympathy. There is in the first place the constant demands that are presented to him for help of all kinds. Some of these he can escape, but many of them dog his footsteps night and day and make life a real burden. Like the king of old he learns, too, that there are in the world thousands of people who will fawn and flatter him just because he is rich. And he is not sure whether he owns even the great gift of life—love and friendship, to the fact that he is himself, or the accident that he is the possessor of vast wealth.

All along the road, too, he is bowed down with the problem of how best to husband his wealth. Sudden reversals of fortune come to many men, and he can never feel himself immune from the possibility of such losses. Above all, there is confronting him at every hour the question, "Whom shall I make my executor or trustee?" If provision is to be made, as it should where such heirs exist,—for children or grandchildren, a long tenure of trusteeship is eminently desirable, and if any or all the fund is to be given to a charity, a permanent trustee is almost a necessity.

The problem of who shall attend to the trusts of the rich was very interestingly answered in San Francisco the other day by Lyman J. Gage, former Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. Gage put himself on record as advocating enthusiastically the employment of trust companies for these offices. "Enjoying perpetuity such a company is not subject to the vicissitudes of death," he pointed out, "and, because controlled by the limitations and provisions of its charter, it is kept by the strong hand of the law within the limits of conservative operations. Presumably managed by a competent board of directors the beneficiaries of the trust have the advantage of the collective wisdom of the experienced

men, and in financial matters in a multitude of experienced counsellors there is safety." A further advantage, of course, Mr. Gage held to be the inspection by State officers of such companies and the guarantee of their ample capital given of loss through errors of judgment or willful dishonesty.

Mr. Gage's address, because given as a financial expert and quite independent of any company whatever, is of exceeding interest not only to the "rich," but to those of moderate fortune.

Saints Park-Street Church.

When Boston was Boston and not a great metropolis, we had many ancient structures that added to her beauty and individuality, but too many of them have been swept away by "ruthless commerce and insatiate trade," and the few remaining ones that tell of the past are threatened with destruction by a severely practical age that erects sky-scrapers, suggestive of the Tower of Babel, as monuments to its aspiring enterprise.

This era would wipe out many of the charms that gave Boston its original distinction in the days of Holmes and Hawthorne, and gives us something in its place that has little architectural, poetic and historic value. Boston has many fine artistic modern buildings, but they lack age and association, and when an edifice is beautiful and is a source of attraction to visitors from abroad, why should it be torn down to make way for a gigantic bee-hive, the counterpart of which can be found on nearly every business street, contributing to the dismal uniformity of many bustling localities.

These thoughts were suggested by the receipt of the handsome illustrated pamphlet just issued by the Committee for the Preservation of Park-street Church, setting forth good and sufficient reasons why the time-honored temple should not go the way of regretted buildings that we can only recall in memory or in illustrations preserved through patriotic pride. There ought to be public spirit enough in Boston to make the destruction of Park-street Church impossible.

Supply and Surplus.

The main difficulty with the present arrangement limiting the Boston milk supply is that it is based on receipts during the corresponding months of last year. There was a shortage all winter owing to the hay famine and the disturbance caused by the cattle epidemic. This year the supply is nearer the normal. To limit the supply as proposed, would mean a heavy charge back for surplus in the case of the average shipper.

It looks as if the astute contractors have in this important detail of the contract obtained a temporary advantage over the officials of the union. The agreement at the last was a hastily prepared document and was not sufficiently considered nor worked out in detail. The services of a first-class lawyer, well informed in the maze of the milk trade, should be secured for these occasions, and the contract placed in such shape that all parties concerned may have no excuse for misunderstanding or artful dodging. Its terms should be so definite and complete that a stranger coming to Boston could, after reading the contract, form a good idea of the conditions on which the milk is sold.

Another fundamental need is that an official report of the amount of milk received at Boston shall be available to the producers. At present none except the contractors can tell the amount, and these refuse to make the figures public. This condition is plainly unbusinesslike, since the actual average price paid may depend considerably upon the amount shipped if the fixed limit is exceeded. The milk receipts should be officially registered at the Chamber of Commerce or otherwise, as is done in the case of butter, cheese, eggs, hay and other produce. Then the producers would be able to judge something of the real condition of supply and demand, and would be in a position to act accordingly.

At present the contractors have a distinct advantage in being able to find out at any time the real state of the market, while the producers can only guess from general appearances.

The whole business must eventually be carried on open and above board, and no body misled or blinded for lack of the hidden facts. Another strike may be needed before price and conditions are placed on a reasonable basis.

Hay Prices About Steady.

Supplies have been increasing enough to counteract the previous temporary shortage, and prices are about at their former level. Large shipments have been reaching the Eastern markets from Canada, Ohio, Michigan and western New York. It is said that a single station in Kansas will send out three thousand carloads this season.

Whether the price will go lower is a question. Some dealers think the general level has about been reached. Rye straw is evidently very scarce, and prices have gone so high that many former buyers are looking for cheaper substitutes. This situation may improve the market for other bedding material. It is reported that but little hay will come from Quebec province this year on account of the strong home market at Montreal. In that event the Boston and New York markets would be considerably strengthened.

The following table shows the highest prices for hay quoted by the Hay Trade Journal in the markets mentioned at this date: Boston \$18.00, New York \$19, Brooklyn \$19, Jersey City \$19, Philadelphia \$16, Pittsburgh \$14, Minneapolis \$11, Chicago \$12.50, Richmond \$14.50, Cincinnati \$13.50, Nashville \$14, Kansas City \$9, St. Louis \$12.50, Montreal \$10, Memphis \$14, Providence \$10, Buffalo \$14.50, Washington \$15.

Cranberry Prices Well Sustained.

The situation continues favorable to sellers. An active demand has taken care of the large receipts and prices for best grades are more than maintained. The New Jersey berries instead of depressing the market have themselves advanced to a strong position, and it looks now as if the cranberry would be solved to the growers' liking.

The situation is considerably strengthened by the scarcity in this country and in Europe of small fruits during the whole season.

A. M. Banks' Sons of New York are now shipping about five hundred to six hundred crates of cranberries to London each week. The Britishers are cultivating a taste for cranberries. It took a great many years for them to learn that the cranberry was a palatable fruit, but the beginning of a good trade is now under way.

At New York the supplies from Jersey boys are holding on better than first supposed. Cape Cod crop shows the largest per cent. of perfect berries. Early blacks have many culs, but when sorted show a

decided improvement in the average quality over last week. Heavy orders are being negotiated for the Thanksgiving trade, which shows plenty of berries in sight. Highest price is \$8.50, against a top quota of \$8 in Boston.

By an examination of the price lists of the New York market from 1870 to 1902 it is found that the prices of cranberries have varied widely in that time. The lowest ranges of prices quoted were in April, 1870, when the berries sold at \$3.50 to \$4 a barrel; November, 1889, \$4 to \$7.50; April, 1890, \$3.50 to \$5.50; November, 1890, \$3.50 to \$5. April contrast the present prices seem quite liberal, and so they are for thus early in the season.

The Market Full of Apples.

"The trouble with the market," is said one salesman, "is that the growers are sending in a lot of windfall and rubbish that sells hard and hurts the sale of good apples."

There is certainly a large amount of second-class fruit, but good apples are also becoming more plenty every week, and dealers find more and more difficulty in making profit sales at ruling quotations.

Prices, however, are still supported by the foreign markets, which are holding up in a wonderful way, owing to the scarcity of native fruit all over Europe. Quotations in Boston for good Baldwins and Greenings are still \$2 to \$2.50, and a common sale price is \$2.25. But there is an oversupply of seconds which are ranging a little below last week's figures, selling at \$1.25 per barrel, or \$1.50 is pretty good. Apples arriving in bulk from West or South are usually mixed quality and in poor condition. They bring about the same as seconds, but no barrel is furnished.

Barrels seem to be in fair supply in the apple districts of southern New England, the crop being a light one. But Maine farmers—and the same is true in New York State and Canada—are finding it extremely difficult to secure barrels in which to pack their product. According to the testimony of one person, who has been visiting in Maine, some of the apple growers are obliged to send ten and fifteen miles for barrels, and then carry back one manufactured of wood almost in its green state, correspondingly heavy. Everybody about the places is pressed into the service of picking labor being scarce.

The New York market for apples is this week in a rather better shape than Boston. Receipts are heavy, but many of the best lots are picked up for export or sent across by the growers themselves. Choice eating varieties quote fully up to last week, while the common varieties and second grades are selling slowly, and quotations are barely sustained. A great deal of rather poor stuff has been coming in from the Hudson-river district and selling at \$1.25 to \$1.75. Better stock comes from western New York, and brings \$2 to \$2.50 for good fruit of standard kinds. On account of the scarcity of barrels a good many arrive without heads, and some come in boxes of all sizes. Packing in such way, of course, hurts the

The Markets.

BOSTON LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

ARRIVAL OF LIVE STOCK AT WATERTOWN AND BRIGHTON.
For the week ending Nov. 4, 1903.

Species	Number	Weight
Cattle Sheep	13,043	29,463
Hogs	12,452	24,488

This week... 13,043 29,463
Last year ago 2895 12,452

Hogs.....

Prices on Northern Cattle.

For hundred pounds on total weight of hide, tallow and meat, extra, \$6.00; 45c; first hide, \$5.00; 45c; second quality, \$4.50; 45c; third quality, \$4.00; 42c; a few choice single pairs, \$4.50; 45c; some of the poorest bulls, etc., \$3.50; 42c. Western cattle, \$3.75; 40c. Store Cattle—Farrow cows, \$15@25c; fancy milch cows, \$6@45c; milch cows, \$30@45c; yearlings, \$10@15c; 20@30c; three-year-olds, \$15@20c; 25@35c. Steers—Per pound, live weight, \$1@30c; extra, 45c; sheep and lambs per cwt., lots, \$3.00; 45c; lambs, 31@60c.

Hogs—Per pound, Western, \$1@30c; live weight, shotes, wholesale—; retail, \$2.50@30c; country dressed hogs, 45c@60c.

YALF CALVES—3@40c; 4@45c.

HOGS—Brighton—6@7c; 7@8c.

CALF SKINS—130 @ 5c; dairy skins, 40@60c.

TALLOW—Brighton, 3@3c; 4@4c; country lots, 2@4c.

PESTS—40@60c.

Cattle, Sheep.

Maine. F. H. Barker & Co. At Brighton. D. H. Berdell. 70 74

Weston 11 22 3

Farmington L. S. 22 29 103

10 250 At Brighton. E. F. Chapman. 16 11

M. J. D. & Co. 20 11

F. A. Berry 20 11

T. Thompson & Son 30 55 14

Hanson 60 90 18 10

D. H. Barnes 18 10

S. H. Harris 12 10

S. H. Wardwell 22 10

T. C. Hall 22 10

A. L. Smith 13 70 12

H. A. Gilmore 12 10

L. H. Gould 4 8

A. D. Kirby 8 5

At N. E. D. M. & Wool Co. 433 13 8

J. D. Lewis 8 5

S. A. Reed 8 5

H. O. Fobush 9 5

New Hampshire. Western. At Brighton. S. S. Learned 114

At N. E. D. M. & Wool Co. 11 12

M. W. Wallace 12 50

At Waterbury. J. A. Hathaway 520

Others 307

Vermont. At Waterbury. J. A. Hathaway 520

Fred Savage 28 330

Others 307

Live Stock Experts.

Horses are not coming in freely and the trade

not what it should be at this season of the year.

Dealers say there must be a marked improvement before the cold weather sets in. At Myer Abrams & Co.'s stable arrivals of 2 cars of Western horses were sold, and they were short of stock; their general sales ruled at \$150@225. 1

pair of 330@18-horse, well matched, sold \$225. At

H. S. Harris & Sons' 4 cars of Western; trade

fair, but no improvement; sales at \$100@275. At

Moses Colman & Son's were sold nearly 100 head

at three auction sales, from \$40@200; their spe-

cial sale was a success. At Welch & Hall Com-

pany's sale stable were sold nearly 150 head,

some were nearby, at \$17@150; best sale was \$400

for heavy drafter. At Russell & Drew's sale

stable moderate sales ruled at steady prices.

Union Yards, Watertown.

Tuesday—A fair supply. The call for beef

stock of common to fair grade is light, and there

is a decline on best Western steers of 150 on 100

lbs. Dealers were effecting disposals after a

fas, but the trade is certainly moderate.

H. Berdell sold 2 beef cows, 1600 lbs. at 25c; 2

do. 1100 lbs. at 25c; R. E. French sold 4 bullocks

for \$1.50; A. J. Hathaway sold 30 steers, of 1500

lbs. at 25c; 25 do. of 1450 lbs. at 25c; 35 do. of

1300 lbs. at 25c; 30 light steers. At

Milch Cows.

A fair demand prevails at steady prices; no

rush. Sales rule at \$60, \$50, \$45, \$40, down to

\$30. Fat Hogs.

A drop has occurred in prices. The Western

cost 5@5c; 1. w. being 4c off. Local hogs at

4c do. d. w. d.

Sheep Houses.

The market has improved on any grade,

heavy butchers paying unchanged prices. The

supply is not so large from Canada as a week

ago, but is sufficient for the demand. Western

sheep at \$2.00@3.00 \$100@200; do. lambs, \$3.00@

60@100 lbs; not a heavy run from New England.

Veal Calves.

Arrivals are nearly the same as a week ago,

with a good demand, sold last week. Butchers

are ready to buy, and give all they are worth on

the market. Sales by one party ranged at 3c;

5c. Sales of 75 calves ruled at 5c@6c.

Live Poultry.

Thirty-five thousand lbs. on the market; same

as last week as regards prices. Fowl and broil-

ers, 10@12c; do. cockatoo at 7@8c.

Doves of Veal Calves.

McIntire & Weston, 20; Live Stock

Company, 20; H. M. Lowe, 40; E. E. Chapman, 10;

M. J. Holt & Son, 40; P. A. Berry, 20; Thompson

& T. C. Hall, 20; Libby Company, 40; S. H. Woodwell, 12; C. H. Hall, 15; Allen & Smith, 8;

E. Kirby, 5.

New Hampshire—W. F. Wallace, 150; T.

Concord, 9; T. Shay, 5; G. S. Peavey, 2; Ed.

Saint, 50; H. Berdell, 7; Frank Wood, 70.

Vermont—Fred Savage, 40; A. Williamson, 22;

S. H. Woodward, 10; Dorand Bros., 15; A. P.

Needham, 8; G. W. Hall, 10; R. E. French, 20;

B. H. Combs, 20; W. A. Ricker, 350; F. Ricker & Co., 100; D. H. Berdell, 60; Rhodes Bros., 52; G. G. Foss, 21; J. S. Henry, 33.

Massachusetts—J. S. Henry, 101; O. H. For-

rester, 40; W. H. Berdell, 21; G. H. Barnes, 22;

B. Combs, 30; H. A. Gilmore, 24; scattering, 100;

J. S. Henry, 33.

Conn. & N. H.—

McIntire & Weston, 20; Live Stock

Company, 20; H. M. Lowe, 40; E. E. Chapman, 10;

M. J. Holt & Son, 40; P. A. Berry, 20; Thompson

& T. C. Hall, 20; Libby Company, 40; S. H. Woodwell, 12; C. H. Hall, 15; Allen & Smith, 8;

E. Kirby, 5.

Brighton, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Stock at yards: 1600 cattle, 1620 sheep, 20,374

hogs, 729 calves, 175 horses. From West, 1782

cattle, 30,000 hogs, 175 horses. Maine, 258 cattle,

260 sheep, 225 hogs, 369 calves. New Hampshire, 12 cattle, 175 horses, 200 cattle, 11 cattle, 2 hogs, 57 calves. Massachusetts, 204 cattle, 146 hogs, 277 calves.

Tuesday—There is really no improvement on the low-grade New England beef cattle. Butchers do not care to handle them at any improvement on the low rates of last week. The better

class of Western steers rule 12c to 15c the lower than a week ago. Butchers were well supplied with nice Western. S. S. Learned & Co. sold for home trade 96 steers, of 1600 lbs. at near 3c. J. P. Day sold 2 oxen, of 2600 lbs. at 4c; 3 beef cows, 800 lbs. at \$1.90. J. W. Ellsworth sold 12 cows, 16,000 lbs. at 3c. S. E. Wenzel, 8 cows, 7600 lbs. at \$1.90. J. S. Henry, 1 cow, of 800 lbs. at 2c; 1 cow, of 700 lbs. at 2c. C. D. Lewis sold 4 slim cows, 900 lbs. at 1c.

Milch Cows and Springers.

Dealers sold out last Wednesday with a large supply. This week opened with fewer cows on the market, with a good outlook with all the different qualities on sale and business opened well. Prices rule steady. W. Culles sold 15 choice cows at \$50 each. Dorand Bros. sold 2 cows, \$38@45c. J. S. Henry, 10 choice cows, \$60@45c; 10 cows, \$40@45c. The Libby Company sold 20 cows on commission from \$40@45c.

Veal Calves.

Dealers sold out in steady prices. Good calves were in demand. P. A. Berry sold 20 calves, \$30@45c. G. H. Barnes sold calves at 4c. G. H. Barnes sold 10 calves, \$10@15c. The Libby Company sold 12 calves, \$30@45c. The Ellsworth Company sold 12 calves, \$30@45c. The Libby Company sold 12 calves, \$30@45c. The Ellsworth Company sold 12 calves, \$30@45c.

Live Arrivals.

Wednesday—Milch cows arrive freely and the total about as much as any week. Yesterday morning the supply appeared lighter, but today more calves were fed to market. The market is not especially strong, but there is a fair number of disposals. Butcher's stock is in fair condition.

The Libby Company sold some 40 head on commission at \$70 down to \$30. M. G. Flanders sold 2 head; 2 choice cows, \$40@45c. S. E. Wenzel sold 10 head; 2 choice cows, \$40@45c. The Ellsworth Company sold 10 head; 2 choice cows, \$40@45c.

Store Piglets.

A light run and demand light. Range, \$2@3.

BOSTON PRODUCE MARKET.

Wholesale Prices.

Feathers—Fresh killed.

At Brighton. At Waterbury.

At Waterbury. At Waterbury.

At Waterbury. At Waterbury.

At Waterbury. At Waterbury.

Our Homes.

The Workbox.

A KNITTED LACE.

Thread, or two-thread Saxon yarn, may be used with needles to correspond. Cast on 30 stitches, knit across plain once.

1st row—Slip 1, 2 plain, over, narrow, 2 plain, (over, narrow) twice, 5 plain, over twice, purl 3 together, over, 5 plain, narrow, over, narrow, over twice, purl 2 together.

After purling where the directions call for over followed by plain knitting or narrowing, the thread is already forward, and this counts as the over stitch.

2d row—Over twice, purl 1, 25 plain, over, narrow, 1 plain.

3d row—Slip 1, 2 plain, over, narrow, 3 plain, (over, narrow) twice, 3 plain, narrow, over twice, purl 1, over, narrow, 3 plain, narrow, over, narrow, over, 1 plain, over twice, purl 2 together.

4th row—Over twice, purl 1, 25 plain, over, narrow, 1 plain.

5th row—Slip 1, 2 plain, over, narrow, 4 plain, (over, narrow) twice, 3 plain, narrow, over twice, purl 1, over, narrow, 2 plain, narrow, over, narrow, over, 3 plain, over twice, purl 2 together.

6th row—Over twice, purl 1, 27 plain, over, narrow, 1 plain.

7th row—Slip 1, 2 plain, over, narrow, 5 plain, (over, narrow) twice, 1 plain, narrow, over twice, purl 1, over, narrow, 1 plain, narrow, over, narrow, over, 5 plain, over twice, purl 2 together.

8th row—Over twice, purl 1, 28 plain, over, narrow, 1 plain.

9th row—Slip 1, 2 plain, over, narrow, 6 plain, (over, narrow) twice, narrow, over twice, purl 1, over, narrow, narrow, over, narrow, over, 7 plain, over twice, purl 2 together.

10th row—Over twice, purl 1, 29 plain, over, narrow, 1 plain.

11th row—Slip 1, 2 plain, over, narrow, 4 plain, narrow, over, 1 plain, (over, narrow) twice, 3 plain, narrow, over, narrow, over twice, purl 2 together.

12th row—Over twice, purl 2 together, 28 plain, over, narrow, 1 plain.

13th row—Slip 1, 2 plain, over, narrow, 3 plain, narrow, over, narrow, over, 1 plain, (over, narrow) twice, 1 plain, narrow, over, narrow, over, 1 plain, (over, narrow) twice, 2 plain, narrow, over twice, purl 2 together.

14th row—Over twice, purl 2 together, 27 plain, over, narrow, 1 plain.

15th row—Slip 1, 2 plain, over, narrow, 2 plain, narrow, over, narrow, over, 3 plain, over, narrow, over twice, purl 3 together, over, narrow, over, 3 plain, (over, narrow) twice, narrow, over twice, purl 2 together.

16th row—Over twice, purl 2 together, 26 plain, over, narrow, 1 plain.

17th row—Slip 1, 2 plain, over, narrow, 1 plain, narrow, over, narrow, over, 5 plain, over, narrow, 1 plain, narrow, over, 5 plain, over, (over, narrow), twice, narrow.

18th row—Over twice, purl 2 together, 25 plain, over, narrow, 1 plain.

Repeat from first row.

EVA M. NILES.

Destroying Fleas.

A good many inquiries are received during the year requesting information concerning methods of destroying fleas, and in view of this we feel that the instruction contained in a little pamphlet recently published by the New Hampshire Experiment Station will be gladly received in many quarters.

According to this pamphlet, the dog flea is one of the most annoying. These are small, reddish-brown creatures, with a hard, smooth body covering, the sides being flattened, which enables the insects to make their way through the hair with ease. The larva and pupa are minute organisms hidden among the hair or in bedding or old clothing.

Various remedies for fleas have been devised. Persian insect powder dusted among the hairs of the animal or in the room serves as a preventive, and on the whole has been very satisfactory wherever it was used.

Handpicking is out of the question where the insects have established themselves in great numbers. However, a single intruder may be the cause of much alarm and when removed the evil is remedied.

The most satisfactory remedy we have found is the use of creolin. This substance in diluted form has been used for various purposes for many years, such as disinfectants, deodorants, insecticides, etc. It has not been, however, generally recommended for fleas.

The time to combat an insect pest is when it is in its infancy. The fleas make their appearance on the fur-bearing animals about our dwellings, and their presence is easily recognized when the animal begins to scratch and bite his fur. As it is among these hairs they begin their breeding, the treatment should begin here.

The animal should be thoroughly washed with a mixture of creolin and water. This will destroy the adults as well as the larvae and thus prevent further breeding. For dogs a three per cent. solution should be used; for cats two per cent. solution, as the fur is more sensitive and the hair finer and will hold the solution longer.

Commercial creolin may be bought at any drug store as a blackish-brown liquid, costing about twenty-five cents a pint. When this is mixed with water it forms a milky-white solution. The proper mixture can be made by means of a graduated glass cylinder. Where this is not available a three per cent. mixture can be made by adding four teaspoonsful to a quart of water and four tablespoonsfuls to a gallon of water. A two per cent. solution may be made by adding two teaspoonsfuls to a quart of water or two tablespoonsfuls to a gallon. Shake well and the mixture is ready for use.

This operation may be performed by preparing a small quantity of the liquid and applying it to the animal with the hands or brush, of a quantity sufficient to completely submerge the patient. Submerging is the easiest way and should continue five minutes, so that the fur is thoroughly saturated. After the removal of the animal no more attention is required than if the animal were submerged in clear water. This wash will kill all the fleas on the animal.

The Art of Getting to Sleep.

All the conditions must be favorable to sleep. The bedroom should be quiet, dark and airy. In winter it is better to have the window away up to shut it, so that a knife-edged draught shall chill an exposed shoulder. The temperature of the bed should be agreeable. Getting to sleep when the feet are cold is as slow a job as getting to sleep when hungry. A hot-water bottle in one case and a piece of bread and butter in the other will help things. I leave it to you to decide which is for which. A warm bed in winter is easily got, but a cool bed in summer is not so simple a proposition. However, a sheet made of straw matting, interposed between the regular sheet and the mattress will be found to mitigate sensibly the horrors of hot night. It preserves the soft-

ness and springiness of the bed, and yet is pleasantly cool without being too cool. Personally, I find that sleep comes soonest when I have no pillows at all.

The next thing is to relax entirely. Remember that the corner of the jaw is the citadel of tension. While that is clinched no sleep can come. But most important of all is the disposition of the mind so that this is the same as the reason why we fall in other things: We do not very genuinely want to succeed. As we lie stretched out after a busy day, there are so many thoughts that we want to chase after that we drop the notion of sleep, though we know that tomorrow is another day on which we can think. It is all very well to say: "Dismiss these thoughts." How to dismiss them is the problem that each must solve.

At all times a perfect mob of ideas and words stand at the gate leading into the mind trying to get in. While we wake and are sane, there is something that stands at this gate and lets in only the sensible ideas and the words that have relation to the subject in hand. All the others it keeps shooting away, with: "Get back there! Go on away!" It is this inhibitive faculty that keeps us sane. But in order to reach the general paralysis of sleep we have to pass through a preliminary stage wherein we are as foolish as any lunatic. When the sentinel at the gate of the mind goes off duty for the night, the mob of irrational ideas and words come trooping in; and so, when I would court sleep, I deliberately open the door of my mind to the rabble, turning loose upon it a troop of unrelated words and phrases. For some reason or other I find that the vocable "abracadabra" is a good one to start off with. Often a word or sentence will repeat itself with increasing rapidity—and shall I say loudness?—until it is all a jumble which breaks up simultaneously with the disintegration of the colored pattern before my closed eyes—Hairy Sutherland, in *Everybody's Magazine*.

Summer Care of Frail Children.

J. Madison Taylor says that children who continue to manifest a low degree of vitality and slackness in play, always deserve our tenderest care and most diligent investigation. The first safeguard must be to defend them from fussy, particular experimental and spasmodic over-attention. Quiet is the paramount requisite, and open-air life. The light of the sun is of first importance, but in certain weather this may be too severe. The physician must, of course, ascertain whether there is any impairment of activity in any special organ, and supply appropriate treatment, which can often be best applied mechanically to the spinal areas through which these can be reached, for in children, lack of vigor, as a rule, indicates a disturbance of nutrition in the segments of the cord whence arises the vascular innervation to the parts or organs most below par. The author gives careful directions as to the hygienic measures to be observed.

Exercise in the form of gardening is especially recommended. Often in frail children motor education is matter of supreme importance—International Medical Magazine.

Sources of Typhoid Infection.

Seale Harris mentions the following causes, milk, flies, dust, contact infection, uncooked vegetables, oysters and ice. Dairies which supply milk to cities should be regularly inspected; cows should not be pastured in lowlands upon which the sewage of small towns are drained. Flies present a great problem. Something may be done to destroy flies in their breeding places, which is largely in the excreta from horses, and in human excrement. Chloride of lime will destroy the larvae. Human excreta used as a fertilizing agent may carry infection. Vegetables should be thoroughly washed in pure water. Ice should be made of only pure water. Finally the prevention of typhoid fever should begin by limiting the infection to the patient under treatment. —The Mobile Medical and Surgical Journal.

The Removal of Stains.

There is nothing more exasperating to the eyes of the tired housewife than unsightly stains on household articles, particularly table linen. Much needless expense and loss of time are caused by the use of costly cleaning fluids, when a home-made compound is oftentimes far more practicable and effective. The following simple recipe for javelle water is invaluable for the removal of stains from cotton or linen goods. Put one pound of washing soda into an agate kettle, add one quart of boiling water, boil from ten to fifteen minutes. Then strain out one-fourth pound of chloride of lime, break it up all lumps with a stick, not a spoon. When cold, put into glass bottles. Add it to settle and grow cold, when it is ready for use. This is a bleaching fluid for unbleached fabrics, as well as for cotton or linen goods which have become discolored with age or poor washing. Use about one cupful of the fluid in two gallons of hot water. Immerse the fabric for a few minutes and then rinse in several waters, using soap to destroy the odor. But if the stain is left too long in a strong solution it will be weakened, or eventually destroyed.

Among the most common tableware stains are those made from tea and coffee. To remove them spread the stained portions over a bowl and pour boiling water over them from such a height as to give it force. For chocolate stains the remedy is borax and cold water. Sprinkle with borax and soak in cold water, after which treat as for tea and coffee stains. For fruit stains use boiling water with one-half cup of javelle fluid to two gallons of water. Immerse stain; soak a short time and rinse well in several waters. When the stain is removed, wash the stain; then pour the water in the following mixture: Two cups of sugar, half cupful sweet milk, one tablespoonful corn starch, one butter, yolks of six eggs. Bake it in oven; then beat the whites with eight tablespoonsfuls of sugar and pour over the pie; brown slightly. This quantity makes two pies.

STUFFED MUSHROOMS.

Cut the mushrooms in half and remove the stalks, sauté in a deep kettle with two large white onions, chopped fine, and cook for ten minutes without browning. Add one pint of raw potatoes cut into half-inch dice and sufficient boiling water to cover. Cook for ten minutes, add one pint of corn cut or scraped from the ear, salt and pepper to taste and simmer for fifteen minutes longer. Have ready one pint of milk made into a thin sauce with eight tablespoonsful of butter and a pint of flour. Add to the chowder with more seasoning if necessary and boil up twice.

LEMON PIE.

Two lemons; bake them a short time, then squeeze and strain the juice; boil the rind in half a pint of water, then pour the water in the following mixture: Two cups of sugar, half cupful sweet milk, one tablespoonful corn starch, one butter, yolks of six eggs. Bake it in oven; then beat the whites with eight tablespoonsfuls of sugar and pour over the pie; brown slightly. This quantity makes two pies.

RICE PLUM PUDDING.

Three gills of rice, one-quarter pound butter,

one-quarter pound sugar, one quart of milk, one teaspoonful salt, six eggs, one-half cupful raisins or currants, one-half cupful cinnamon, a little rose water, one grated nutmeg; boil the rice with lemon peel in the milk till soft; mix butter, sugar and eggs; dredge the fruit with flour and put in with the cinnamon, last; bake one hour and a half.

TO BOIL MUTTON.

Bolled mutton is not a poetical dish, but it is a good standby for the family dinner. It appears much oftener on the English tables than on American. The leg of mutton should be quite a few minutes, and then strain the water.

To boil, skin frequently, then set the meat in the range and simmer slowly, allowing twenty minutes to each pound of meat. A little rice is frequently boiled with the mutton. Serve with a thick caper sauce poured over the mutton and currant jelly. The caper sauce is merely a drawn butter sauce, made by combining a scant half-cup of butter with two tablespoonsfuls of flour in a saucepan, adding when bubbly one pint of the hot water in which the mutton was boiled, seasoning to taste, and adding at the least six table-spoonsful of caper or pickled nasturtium seeds.

ENGLISH GINGER SNAPS.

Fourteen ounces of white sugar, eight ounces of white flour, eight eggs, one teaspoonful of

baking powder, one and a half pound of flour.

Mix up the flour and sugar, add the eggs, then

the baking powder, and then the white flour.

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PURELY VEGETABLE.

THE GREAT LIVER AND STOMACH REMEDY.

cares all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Nervous Diseases, Loss of Appetite, Headache, Constipation, Costiveness, Indigestion, Biliousness, Fever, Piles, Etc., and makes the system less liable to contract disease.

DYSPEPSIA.

RADWAY'S PILLS are a cure for this complaint. They tone up the internal secretions to healthy action, restore strength to the stomach, and enable it to perform its functions.

PRICE 25 CENTS PER BOX. SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS
Or Sent by Mail.

Poetry.

OCTOBER.

The harvest moon is fair and bright
In yonder bending sky,
And sadly in the wayside boughs
The passing breezes sigh.
Soft hangs the bough o'er hill and vale,
Above each forest bower,
While all the nuts are rattling down
In many a wind-swept shower.
Brightly adown the sylvan ways,
Do Nature's banners gleam,
Or silently seaward float
On many a flowing stream.
The woodbine hangs upon the wall
In hues of crimson dress,
And fair against the emerald pines
The brilliant sunbeams rest.
Merrimac, Mass. J. B. M. WRIGHT.

AIRSHIPS.

Have you never sunk your money in a scheme
That didn't pay?
Or brought your pens and paper out to say your
name is say.
And discovered that the genius that should lift
you from the ranks
Met with the same reception and was all declined
with thanks?
Did you ever run for office with a patriotic plan
For a general reformation to uplift your fellow-
man?
Did you ever make a trip to where the disappoint-
ments wait?
Did you never build an airship that refused to
navigate?
Ah, these fond idealisms, how they cheer the
careless throng!
That laughs when cherished plans go right—and
laughs when they go wrong.
They are splendid for the masses! Every fall-
ure, be it known,
To subsequent success may lay the humble step-
ping stone.
So, even though you're jilted by ambition or a
girl,
There's no use in repining with your senses in a
whirl.
A man must do his little best and leave the rest
to fate;
And life is full of airships that refuse to navi-
gate. —The Washington Star.

UNSONG.

Who sings of the farmer?
Grand old player of uphill game,
Spurred by no prize of wealth or fame:
Game which calls for a soldier's will,
Game which demands a sailor's skill;
Single-handed face of woes,
Deeper than buffers by human foes;
Wager of ceaseless, stubborn fight,
All the year, every day, dash and sight;
With ill-timed drought and drench and cold,
With wasted crop and the stricken field,
With prospects of poverty crudely nipped,
With the garden bare and the orchard stripped;
Disappointed and sick at heart,
Weary of playing a victim's part,
Weary of promises unfulfilled,
Of shattered plans and of projects killed.
Still he plays on; still day by day
Girds himself bravely to the fray,
Pays up the losses and takes the blow,
Grimly smiles at each overthrow;
Hopes against hope, to the creed he clings,
End must come to the worst of things;
So the years pass. Then the Final Call
Bows the brave head, and back to the wall,
Facing his world of sorrow, not shame,
The grand old player yields the game!
Yet—nobody sings of the farmer.

H. F. Abel.

SWEETHEARTS NOW AS THEN.

Alas! that vows should broken be,
And hearts disdained grow,
That love should from the cottage flee,
Or bitter winds should blow;
Her once kind words should sting like whips,
And he should never see
The winning smile on tiny lips
Of children at his knee.
But years of youth are all too fleet,
The fires of love grow cold,
And winter with its snow and sleet
Bedims the summer's gold.
The raven locks are streaked with gray,
And brows are seamed with care—
O thou whose heart is changeful play,
Think once of spring-time fair.
What though the years have left their trace,
And sorrows thick and fast
Have clouded thy once beaming face?
Life's storms will soon be past.
What though thy load seems hard to bear,
And grieves thy pathway strew?
Remember—she—the woman's share
Of burden bears with you.
Recall the half-forgotten tunes
That once she used to sing;
Remember now the dear, dead Junes
When life was blossoming.
Let no day's sun set on thy wraith—
Each hour with kindness fill;
'T will smooth the end of life's rough path
When those dear hands are still.
Remember now the wicket gate,
Where purple lilacs grow;
The robin chose his russet mate—
He won thy love from you.
And thou, in all thy manly pride,
The youth renew again,
Recall the days of life's spring-tide—
Be sweethearts now as then.

—George N. Lowe, the Bookman.

SECRET OF PINES.

Love, shall I then kiss unto the rose
That is so sweet?
Nay, since for a single day she grows
Then scattered lies upon the garden rows
Beneath our feet.

But to the perfume shed when forests nod
When noonday shines,
That lulls us as we tread the woodland sod,
Eternal as the eternal peace of God—
The scene o' pines. —Hugh McCulloch, Jr.

EPITAPES.

The field where men for little trophies vie,
The hollow acclamation lightly won.
Allured him not; he loved the quiet sun,
Wide spaces and the universal sun.
His spirit, native to the mountain air,
Stumbled through marshy valleys down
death;
Broken in frame, he smiled to cheat despair.
And strove to sing with thin, impeded breath.
He lies beneath; in life he vainly tried
To breathe large notes upon a flute too slim;
Unuttered raptures filled him till he died;
Pray for his soul; his songs are dead with him.
—J. E. Barton, in the Saturday Review.

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 1903

"Um" ruminated Stebbins.
He thoughtfully bit one of the nuts.
"Um" he ruminated again. "That's funny, too," he added.
"What's funny?" demanded Harrison. "You make me tired, Stebbins. What's funny now?"
"Oh, nothing," replied Stebbins, "nothing. Nothing at all, except that all these chestnuts have been boiled!"

Miss Priscilla's Proposal.

"If, therefore, you can make up your mind to trust your dear life to an old soldier who has given his best years to his Queen and country, but can offer you an unfailing and respectful devotion—"

Miss Priscilla Bentley dropped a letter into her lap and covered two smooth, prettily pink cheeks with her thin hands. The man with whom she had played when her soft gray hair stuck straight out from her head in a stiff little brown plait had been back in the old home just a month now, and they had met after a lapse of forty years, and he was still as good as new.

"Thank You!" she whispered—but very shyly, and as if even this tacit admission of a satisfied heart was something unmanly and blameworthy.

"Oh, God, thank you!" And then she crossed the room to an old-fashioned bureau and took up a penholder with a shaking hand.

"You've been overdriven yourself, I can see!" said one Betsy Briggs, as her mistress walked into her little hall and out of the letter box.

"Not at all, Betsy," said Miss Priscilla, brightly. "I may be a trifle flushed with the heat, perhaps—I had an important letter to post, and I always feel more satisfied if a letter is posted at the general office than in a pillar box."

"Humph!" said the privileged old servant. "There has been a boy botherin' here for a letter he said he left for you, this afternoon, instead of No. 32. I said I could give no answer till you come in. I'm sure there's been more muddles since that there young Miss Bentley settled ten doors down than you could count in a month of Sundays! She ate your bit of sole last Thursday week, and never a-y'all go and sit down, dum, and I'll take your boots off!"

Miss Priscilla, white suddenly to the very lips, was staring incredulously at the keen-eyed old maid.

"A note—delivered by hand, Betsy? But it wasn't a mistake. It—It can't be!"

Betsy snuffed. "Well, the boy said he'd got orders to take it on to No. 32, immediate, and a scoldin' in half an hour, please, Betsy."

Miss Priscilla's groping hand had gripped a hair, horny one, as though to save herself from falling.

"I'm all right, Betsy"—there was a strange, piteous expression in her blue eyes—"quite right. Yes, I'll go and sit down. But I don't want any tea, or—do you want to be disturbed for half an hour, please, Betsy?"

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